

AMIAA NEWS

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Soup Kitchen in Tbilisi, Georgia (Story on Page 10)

ARMENIAN MISSIONARY



ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

INCORPORATED

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Easter 2001

Dear AMAA Members and Friends:

We just celebrated the triumphant resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. On this glorious occasion we extend to you the greetings of the Board of Directors, the mission partners and the office staff of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA).

The sacrificial death of Jesus Christ and His resurrection after three days bring the hope of our future. Jesus died so that we live and have eternal life.

This Easter Message is needed more than ever today. As an Armenian Christian Missionary organization, the AMAA is overwhelmed with appeals from around the world for help. There is an ever-increasing demand from the Middle East, Europe and Armenia.

- In Lebanon, poor economic conditions, unemployment and inflation has created desperation within their communities to the extent that our churches, schools and institutions depend completely on assistance from abroad. Eighty percent of families cannot pay any tuition, as they struggle to survive.
- In Bulgaria, the level of poverty for most of the families is unbearable, as they can barely keep food on their tables. The country has not yet recovered from the economic crisis created during the process of change from the old to the new system.
- In our homeland, Armenia, the desperation among our people has resulted in a great exodus, thousands of people leaving to seek employment. Those who are left are faced with harsh and unbearable conditions. Unemployment is unimaginably high, and those employed are paid minimal amounts, not enough to survive on, much less maintain a decent and normal life.

These are some unfortunate examples of the tremendous needs around the world making us wonder how can we help?

As a missionary organization, we are committed to respond to the needs of suffering people. The Bible commends us to do good. However, we realize that we can do good only as much as our members and friends support. Therefore, once again we turn to you for help.

After the crucifixion, there is resurrection, thanks to the Lord. We do believe there is a better future tomorrow for suffering communities, through the love and care of concerned individuals.

We appeal to you to follow the example of Jesus, who sacrificed Himself for others. Please do good for others and be as generous as you can when you place your contribution in the inserted envelopes. Your gift will make a difference in the life of a needy person. Your gift will bring the hope of resurrection to the crucified.

Thank you and may the blessings of our resurrected Savior be upon you and your loved ones.

Andrew Torigian
President

A Happy Ending

By Dikran Youmshakian

"Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? The same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11).

Have you ever thought what would have happened if the story of Jesus had ended with His glorious resurrection? The truth is it did not. It did not end with the resurrection; neither was it followed by the immediate establishment of His kingdom on earth, as the disciples expected. For a short period (forty days) from His resurrection, Jesus stayed amongst His disciples, appearing and disappearing spontaneously, at will, as though by thought or light. And then the time came for His final appearance, and in a dramatic way, He departed. "And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up: and a cloud received Him out of their sight." (Acts 1:9).

The ascension of Jesus was different from His previous disappearances. It was

impressive and enforcing in the minds and consciences of the disciples. Jesus wanted to confirm that He was exactly whom He claimed to be. He needed to dramatize the ascension to confirm His return to earth. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the triumph of God." (1 Thessalonians 4:16).

With His ascension, Jesus gave hope for a happy ending for all suffering on earth. He also gave the greatest commission to His disciples. He wanted them not to stand still waiting for Him to return, but act and carry on with His mission.

If not for the ascension of our Lord, the disciples would not have been what they became. They would have been standing still and expecting Him to do everything. Now that He was gone, they were on their own with a great commission to fulfill. "And this gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come." (Matthew 24:14).

The happy ending of this event was related to the actions of His disciples, and it is dependent upon our actions today. It is dependent on how seriously we take on the commission. Then and only then, when the time comes "He will come in the glory of His Father with His Angels, and He will reward each according to his works." (Matthew 16:27).

The message of the glorious resurrection of Christ and His ascension is meaningful more than ever today as we commemorate the 86th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Like Christ Himself, the Armenian nation experienced the worst suffering. Like Christ, our nation experienced the resurrection with the rebirth of its national identity, awareness and achievement of Independence.

Now with great expectation our nation awaits for the time of the happy ending, which will come thanks to the promise of our Resurrected and Ascended Lord.

Let us not stand still, amazed gazing up into heaven, but act, work hard and carry on with the great commission. Let us do so, as we listen to the angels who proclaim "the same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go to heaven."□

GO AHEAD! DESTROY THE ARMENIANS!

I should like to see any power in this world destroy this race, this small tribe of unimportant people whose history is ended, whose wars have been fought and lost, whose structures have crumbled, whose literature is unread, whose music is unheard, and whose prayers are no more answered.

Go ahead, destroy this race! Destroy Armenia! See if you can do it. Send them from their homes into the desert. Let them have neither bread nor water. Burn their homes and churches.

Then, see if they will not laugh again, see if they will not sing and pray again. For when two of them meet anywhere in the world, see if they will not create a New Armenia.

- William Saroyan

AMAA Board Meets in Los Angeles

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) was held on Saturday, March 24, 2001 at the United Armenian Congregational Church (UACC) of North Hollywood, CA.

The Board of Directors of the AMAA consists of twenty-seven elected members in addition to eight advisory members, with ex-presidents and five ex-officio members. Since one third of the elected members are from the West Coast, the full Board meets at least once a year in California.

The meeting was presided by the President of the Association, Mr. Andrew Torigian. Words of welcome and an opening prayer was offered by the UACC Associate Pastor, Rev. Mgrditch Melkonian.

Included on the agenda were reports from the mission fields, particularly from Armenia and the Middle East. The deteriorating economic situation in Lebanon, where there still exists large number of Armenians, was a major concern.

The Association financially supports Haigazian University of Beirut, Lebanon, the only Armenian institute of higher education in the Armenian diaspora, along with seven schools – three high schools, two intermediate and two elementary. Most of the schools are faced with severe financial crisis, as 80 percent of the students are unable to pay tuition.

Thousands of families in Lebanon now are near poverty level, as unemployment and inflation have significantly climbed higher. The Armenian Community needs our assistance more than ever.

A delegation representing the AMAA Board will leave for the Middle East in April to have an upclose picture of the situation, and investigate the possibilities to help. The delegation will include the President of the Association, Andy Torigian, its newly appointed Executive Director, Rev. Jirair Sogomian, as well as the co-chairs of the Near East Committee, Louis Kurkjian and Herair Mouradian.

Both the President and the Executive Director will then travel to Armenia to evaluate AMAA services provided to our home-



AMAA Board of Directors Meeting (above). President Andrew Torigian preaching at the UACC Sunday morning Worship Service with Rev. Ron Tovmassian, the pastor of the church (left) and Rev. Mgrditch Melkonian, the Associate Pastor (right).

land, and how they can be improved.

The Board also discussed the preliminary work connected with the 82nd Annual Meeting of the AMAA, which this year will be held in Detroit, Michigan during the third week of October. Prior to the Board Meeting, there will be a two-day retreat to reevaluate the work of the Association and plan for its future.

The day-long meeting of the Board in Los Angeles was an occasion to thank God for all those who had the vision of establishing the AMAA in 1918. Thanks to their vision, to the dedicated services and support of many concerned individuals, the Associa-

tion has grown to become a major organization serving the needs of Armenian Communities in 22 countries around the world.

On Saturday night, the Board Members attended a special sacred concert presented by the Lark Musical Society dedicated to the memory of their late Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Movses B. Janbazian.

On Sunday, the mission and service ministries of the AMAA were celebrated in five local Armenian Evangelical Churches, with AMAA officers bringing their message to their respective churches – President

(Continued on the following page)

Lark Musical Society's Concert in memory of Reverend Movses Janbazian

On Saturday, March 24, 2001, a Sacred Music Concert was offered jointly by the AMAA and Lark Musical Society, in loving memory of AMAA's Executive Director, Rev. Movses B. Janbazian who was an enthusiastic supporter of sacred music and of the Lark Musical Society. During his fully active life and along his extremely busy schedule, Rev. Janbazian had created time to appreciate and enjoy music and was inspired by listening to it.

AMAA Vice President Attorney George Phillips, Sr. and AMAA Board member Dr. Nazareth Darakjian chaired the Organizing Committee of the event. Following Dr. Nazareth Darakjian's tribute to Reverend Janbazian, the Dziadzan ("Rainbow") Choir and the Lark Adult Chorus and Orchestra, under the capable baton of Maestro Vatsche Barsoumian, performed J.S. Bach's Mass in B. Minor. Around 1000 guests attended this special musical performance which took place at the Gothic architectural style sanctuary of the First Congregational Church of Pasadena. The soloists Alenoush Yeghnazar (soprano), Garineh Avakian (Mezzo Soprano), Natalie Beck (Alto), Malory Walker (Tenor) and Ara Kourouyan (Bass) captured the listeners as they beautifully performed the different sections of this two part Mass, which represents the ultimate expression of Bach's faith. During the performance the computerized text of the Latin Mass was projected on a screen in both the Armenian and English translations. At the same time images of artistic paintings were projected depicting various biblical scenes relevant to what was being sung. These projections enhanced and added to the enjoyment and understanding of the performance.

Under Rev. Janbazian's guidance, the AMAA and the Lark Musical Society have jointly produced five sacred music concerts, here in the United States and in Paris, France during the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Armenian Evangelical Church. Rev. Janbazian believed in the power of sacred music in bringing the Gospel to the people, as well as bringing people closer to God. It was in this spirit that this performance was dedicated to the living and loving memory of Rev. Janbazian. □



Maestro Vatsche Barsoumian conducting Lark Orchestra and Choir during the Special Music Concert dedicated to the memory of Rev. Movses Janbazian. Soloists Alenoush Yeghnazar and Garineh Avakian (below).

(Continued from page 4)

Torigian, at the United Armenian Congregational Church of Los Angeles, Vice President George Phillips at the Armenian Cilicia Evangelical Church of Pasadena, Vice President Peter Kougasian at the Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church of Downey, and AMAA Administrative Director Dikran Youmshakian at the Armenian Evangelical

Church of Hollywood, and later at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Glendale.

On Sunday afternoon, a special Memorial Service for Rev. Janbazian, organized by the Los Angeles Ministerium of Armenian Evangelical Clergy, was attended by seven hundred people at the United Armenian Congregational Church. □

Armenian Missionary Association of Australia Officially Launched

Mr. Andrew Torigian, President of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, on his return from a trip to Sydney, Australia reported that the Armenian Missionary Association of Australia (AMA-Australia) was officially launched on Sunday, March 11, 2001.

Mr. Torigian timed his trip to Australia to coincide with the observation of the AMAA Sunday at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Sydney, Australia. March is AMAA month. During March of each year, Armenian Evangelical Churches worldwide celebrate the AMAA month and remember its mission and service ministries. The church in Sydney had dedicated Sunday, March 4 for the AMAA. On this Sunday, Mr. Torigian brought his message to the congregation in Sydney, and gave a detailed report on the services AMAA provides to Armenian Communities in 22 countries around the world.

The Armenian Evangelical Church of Sydney was founded in 1966. In 1996, a new sanctuary was built. The church has over 50 families and is very active in the Armenian Community of Sydney. The pastor is Rev. Krikor Youmoushakian from Beirut. Being actively involved in missionary work, it was not surprising for the church to initiate the idea of having the AMA-Aus-



Mr. Andrew Torigian with Rev. Father Andon Totonjian of the Armenian Catholic Church of Sydney and Rev. Krikor Youmoushakian at the AMA-Australia Banquet.

tralia formed.

Mr. Torigian's visit to the field in Australia was his first and, therefore, was full of activities and events. On Sunday, March 4 in the evening, he attended a special concert of the Little Virtuosos from Armenia which is a group of talented young artists sponsored by the AMAA. The Chatsworth Town Hall where they performed was full

to capacity. During the intermission, Mr. Torigian explained to the audience how this group was formed, how the little musicians were nourished and trained to become famous performers. The group had four concerts in Australia, two in Sydney and two in Melbourne. All concerts were sold out with the people clamoring for more.

During the week, Mr. Torigian had meet-



Mr. Andrew Torigian with Rev. Krikor Youmoushakian, Pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Sydney, Australia.



Mr. Andrew Torigian with AMA-Australia Board members Lucy Aroyan, Lena Boymoushakian, Barkev Ishkhanian and Rev. Krikor Youmoushakian.

ings with the members of the new AMA of Australia. A Board of Directors were set up by the election process of the congregation. The following members were elected: Mrs. Lucy Aroyan, Mrs. Lena Boymoushakian, Miss Arpi Giragossian, Mr. Barkev Ishkhanian, Mr. Hovhannes Soghomonian, Mr. Sevag Chelebian, Rev. Krikor Youmoushakian, Advisor – Executive.

Various committees were formed to help the newly elected board members have a clear path to take for the Glory of God.

On Sunday, March 11, the AMA of Australia organized a banquet which was attended by the congregation and members of the Armenian community at large. During this banquet, the AMA of Australia was officially launched. Mr. Torigian was the keynote speaker. He thanked the community in Sydney, Australia for initiating the creation of the AMA Australian affiliate. He thanked God for His wisdom and guidance and

also expressed his sincere appreciation for the support the Armenian Community in Australia provides to needy communities around the world, including our homeland Armenia.

On this occasion, over \$4,000 was raised to fund this newly established organization. It was also announced that an anonymous donor had pledged to establish an Endowment Fund to help needy children in Armenia.

We congratulate the Armenian Evangelical Church in Sydney, Australia on the es-



Mr. Torigian with the Little Virtuosos of Armenia during a trip to the Sydney Zoo.

tablishment of their missionary organization, and pray that through our cooperation and partnership, lives of many will be touched both physically and spiritually, bringing praises to God.

AMAA LECTURE WILL FEATURE REV. DR. PETER DOGHRAMJI

Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji of Havertown, PA will be the speaker in a special lecture organized by the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA).

Last year to celebrate the epochal year 2000, the Board of Directors of the AMAA introduced a program to help reinforce the faith and challenge the intellect of its members. Special series of lectures were presented by recognized scholars/thinkers drawn from the Armenian Community. The lectures were well received by the public as they were educational and challenging.

This year marks the 1700 Anniversary of the official adoption of Christianity in Armenia. To celebrate this historic event, the AMAA will present a special lecture on Friday, June 1, 2001 at 6:30 P.M.. at its headquarters on 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ.

Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji will be the speaker and will present a challenging topic “Reforming the Church and Its Mission”.

Dr. Doghramji is the interim pastor serving the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York. He is a graduate of Near East School of Theology, American University of Beirut, Harvard Divinity School (M.Th) and Princeton Theological Seminary (Th.D) (Magna Cum Laude).

In 1953 Rev. Doghramji was licensed by the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon. Until 1970 he served the Assyrian and Armenian Churches in the Middle East as well as the Aleppo College and NEST.

From 1978 to 1984, Dr. Doghramji was executive secretary of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America and from 1984 to 1986, he served as moderator to the same Union.

From 1970-1979 he was pastor of the Armenian Martyrs’ Congregational Church, Havertown. In 1979 he joined the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ staff as an assistant to the conference minister. In his new position, he worked in evangelism, church extension, public advocacy and human services and in 1985 he was elected conference minister and president where he served with competence and dedication until his retirement in 1991.

Following his retirement in 1991, he served as interim minister of Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church in Downey, California, for three months in 1993. In October that same year, Dr. Doghramji agreed to a six-month term as interim minister at United Armenian Congregational Church in North Hollywood, California, he later assumed the fulltime ministerial position for three years.

We urge our members and friends to make every effort to attend this lecture, after which there will also be a reception.

For directions to AMAA headquarters or any questions, please call (201) 265-2607.



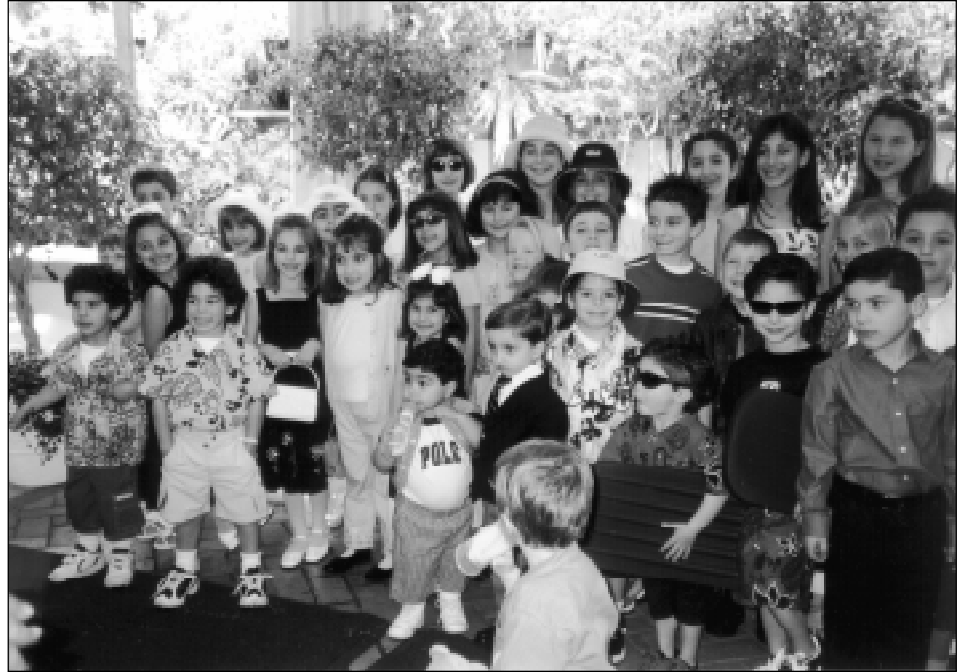
AMAA's "Children Helping Children" Event Raises \$100,000

Two hundred twenty five guests and children joined a festive occasion at the beautiful Four Seasons Hotel in Beverly Hills, CA. Over \$100,000 was raised at this event. The theme "Children Helping Children" was the focus of the luncheon of the AMAA Orphan Care Committee, the luncheon being repeated for the third year by popular demand.

Of special note, Dr. Melvin Cheatham of the Samaritan's Purse Organization and the Billy Graham Evangelical Association gave a touching message in remembrance of AMAA's Executive Director Rev. Movses B. Janbazian with whom he had traveled to Armenia. He alluded to Rev. Janbazian's commitment to serve his people, his deep and abiding faith, and his tremendous leadership skills.

Grace Kurkjian served as Mistress of Ceremonies. Joyce Stein, Co-chair of the Orphan Care Committee, paid tribute to Reverend Janbazian, recalling his youth and his extraordinary career.

Following the luncheon, guests were treated to a delightful fashion show. Thirty-seven youngsters ranging in age from two to eleven years participated in spring fashions by Nordstrom department store. The three co-chairs of the event, Linda Kay Abdulian, Christina Jabarian, and Michelle Shirikian



The Models.

provided an unforgettable afternoon – one of AMAA's finest. The successful silent auction was organized by Sandra Kalemkarian, Gina Felikian, and Diane Cabraloff. Special appreciation is due for their tireless efforts in coordinating this event as well as to the members of the committee that donated and

solicited silent auction items and participated in planning the luncheon.

The founding members of the Orphan care committee since 1988 are Elizabeth Agabian, Chairman, Hermine Janoyan, Joyce Stein, and Savey Tufenkian. Current members on the West Coast are Diane Cabraloff, Gina Felikian,

(continued on the following page)



(l to r) Grace Kurkjian, Joyce Stein, Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Cheatham. (l to r) Sandra Kalemkarian, Gina Felikian & Diane Cabraloff.

Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, NJ Raises over \$12,000 for Mission Work in Armenia

On Sunday afternoon, March 18, 2001, the Missions Committee of the Armenian Presbyterian Church (APC) of Paramus, NJ held a spectacular "Benefit Concert Dedicated to our Parents", and raised over \$12,000. The proceeds of this Concert were earmarked to benefit mission work in Armenia mainly the Nursing Home No. 1 of Yerevan, where Sister Hanna Christen, a German missionary, is serving for the past three years to the elderly with her Christian love, care and devotion, as the volunteer missionary of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA).

Mrs. Marie Alberian, the Co-Chair of the Missions Committee of the APC spoke eloquently of the ardent task undertaken by her committee in its quest to provide financial assistance where needed.

Pianist Karen Tchougourian, a master at the keyboard, performed selections by various familiar composers, such as Shumann, Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Ravel, Gershwin, including those of Armenian composers, Aram Khachaturian, Komitas, Arno Babajanian and Edgar Hovhannesian. After a well-deserved standing ovation by a sold-out audience, he graciously returned for an encore.

Karen Tchougourian is a young comer from Armenia and is studying for his doc-



Pianist Karen Tchougourian flanked by APC Missions Concert Committee members.

torate at the prestigious Manhattan School of Music in New York.

At the end of the Program, Mrs. Elbiz Baghdikian, the Co-Chair of the Missions Committee of the APC complemented the committee likewise for the success of this event and invited Miss Ani Janbazian to present a gift to the artist.

A reception followed at which time the guests were able to meet with the artist and to enjoy the sumptuous buffet.

Congratulations are due to all the Program Committee members who prepared such a delightful and memorable afternoon of enjoyment and entertainment for such a worthy cause.

(continued from page 8)

Mary Hovanessian, Sandra Kalemkarian, Mary Kassabian, Grace Kay, Grace Kurkjian, Arsine Phillips, Suzie Phillips, Barbara Poladian, and Irene Sassounian.

This event would not have been possible without the generous donations of our benefactors, patrons and sponsors who believe in the cause. A special gratitude goes to them for their overwhelming response.

Since the 1988 earthquake in Armenia, the Orphan Care Committee has been consistently raising funds to help the unfortunate orphans and children who are deprived of many privileges our children enjoy in America. The funds raised are also distributed to orphanages in Yerevan,

Gumri, Vanadzor and Spitak as well as Karabagh.

They are also used for children's summer camps in many parts of Armenia, special programs during the year, and Christmas gifts distributed to 14,000 children. This is made possible with the help of our "Children Helping Children" yearly event.

The AMAA Orphan Care project depends on the support of caring individuals. Those who would like to reach out and support the Committee's projects may do so by sending their tax-deductible donations to AMAA Orphan Care Committee at 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652. □



One of the models, 18 months old Daniel Abdulian.

GEORGIA SOUP KITCHEN - A REALITY NOW!



Rev. Vigen Galustian

The Tbilisi Soup Kitchen sponsored by the Cupertino West Valley Presbyterian Church's (WVPC) Mission Department is a reality now. Its grand opening took place last year on Monday, January 17, 2000. Around thirty-five needy Armenian seniors, who live way under the poverty line, enjoyed a nutritious hearty hot meal and raised their hands in praising and thanking God for the loving kindness and the generosity of WVPC congregation in such a far away land.

Initially, this Soup Kitchen venture was to be a two-month Pilot Project just to assist the Armenian community's impoverished seniors to get through the harsh winter months. However, by the grace of God and through WVPC's kindness of heart, the Soup Kitchen stayed open until the end of June 2000. By the end of May, sixty-five seniors were being served in the dining room plus nineteen shut-ins received meals on wheels.

Rev. Vigen Galustian, Missionary-in-Residence on WVPC, who has traveled several times to Armenia and Georgia as AMAA's short term missionary, writes in his report: "What I witnessed in Tbilisi

on one of my visits, (April 25th through May 6th, 2000) was really moving and tremendously encouraging. So many of the people who ate regularly in the dining room, came up to me and expressed their sincere thanks and deep gratitude for this miracle that has happened in their lives. Some said that this couldn't be but God's intervention and love for them, that God must have put it in the hearts of those that support this thoughtful undertaking. One woman, who used to stand on the street corners asking for handouts said, 'I don't have to beg for a loaf of bread any more, I eat a hot meal here and now I have my dignity restored as a human being.' I am confident that she spoke for many of those who lacked the courage to do so."

The Soup Kitchen was closed for summer break. Late September 2000, Pastor Ron McHattie, senior pastor of WVPC and Rev. Galustian made a quick trip to Tbilisi for the re-opening of it. During this past winter season, it served a total of seventy Armenian Seniors plus many shut-ins.

Rev. Vigen Galustian just returned from yet another trip to Tbilisi where he spent the Holy Week and Easter Sunday with the Armenian Evangelical community there, leading all the Worship Services. He also visited a few shut-ins and took care of some Kitchen business that needed attention. Currently seventy-five seniors enjoy a hot and nutritious meal five days a week. □

AMAA HELPS VICTIMS OF RENEWED FLOODS IN MOZAMBIQUE

Responding to an urgent appeal from Dorcas Aid International (DAI), of the Netherlands, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) recently contributed an additional \$5,000 to victims of renewed flooding in Mozambique, an African country of 19 million. Unfortunately, flooding this year is worse and is contaminating all fresh water wells. The specter of death from starvation, cholera and malaria, is day by day, growing among the survivors. Blankets, medication, foodstuffs and especially drink-

ing water are needed urgently.

As a missionary organization, the AMAA concerns itself with the needs of victims of natural and man-made disasters around the world. Therefore, once again we appeal to our members and friends and ask for their participation in this humanitarian effort.

Please fill out the form below and mail your tax-deductible contribution to AMAA/Mozambique Flood Relief, 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652. □

ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

*Yes, I would like to help the flood victims of Mozambique.
Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of \$_____.*

Name: _____

Address: _____

*(Make tax deductible donations to AMAA, earmarked for Mozambique
Relief and mail to 31 W. Century Rd., Paramus, NJ 07652)*



Aram R. Minnetian, AMAA's Treasurer, Appointed President of Weichert Relocation Co.



Aram Robert Minnetian, the treasurer of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, has been appointed president of **Weichert Relocation Co.**, Morris Plains, NJ.

With the company since 1995, Mr. Minnetian most recently was vice president of finance. Aram Minnetian holds the titles of Certified Public Accountant and Certified Relocation Professional.

Mr. Minnetian is a member of the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, NJ. He is a graduate of Rutgers University and holds a master's degree in corporate finance from Fordham University of NY. □

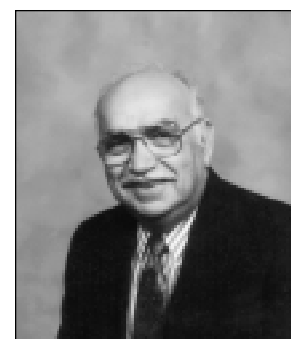
Rev. Samuel Albarian to Direct Ethnic Ministries at California's Oldest Armenian Church



Rev. Samuel Albarian, Associate Pastor of the Calvary Armenian Congregational Church of San Francisco, CA, has been named the Director of Armenian Ministries (Associate Pastor for Mission and Outreach) of the First Armenian Presbyterian Church (FAPC) of Fresno, CA. Rev. Albarian and his wife Tamar began their new duties in Central California on March 26, 2001.

Rev. Albarian will primarily minister to a growing émigré population from the Republic of Armenia and Middle East with the FAPC congregation and Community. He will also be an active participant in the worship, Christian Education and Young Couples' Ministries. □

Rev. Bernard Guekguezian Bids Farewell to California's Oldest Armenian Church



Rev. Bernard Guekguezian, the Senior Pastor of California's oldest Armenian Church bid farewell to his congregation after 22 years of service. More than a thousand people gathered at the historic First Armenian Presbyterian Church of Fresno on November 4, 2000 to honor Rev. Bernard and Mrs. Knar Guekguezian for their lives of faith, service and witness.

Rev. & Mrs. Guekguezian formally left the Church on January 21, 2001 and on February 1, 2001 moved to Massachusetts after accepting an invitation to serve the congregation of the First Armenian Church of Belmont. □

Rev. Gregory Haroutunian Begins Pastorate at the Historic Chicago Church



Rev. Gregory Vahack Haroutunian, after concluding a dozen years of service at the First Armenian Presbyterian Church of Fresno, CA as Associate Pastor, accepted a call to serve the Armenian Evangelical Church of Chicago, IL.

As a native of San Francisco, Rev. Haroutunian grew up in the San Joaquin Valley of Central California. He earned a B.A. Degree in Political Science from Stanford University in 1982, and M.Div. Degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School of Deerfield, IL.

Rev. Haroutunian and his wife Sossi, started their new ministry at the Chicago Church on April 1, 2001. □

Dorcas Aid Representatives Visit the AMAA

Mr. Dirk Jan Groot, the Director of Dorcas Aid International (DAI) of the Netherlands, accompanied by his associate, Mr. Paul Vishky, visited the AMAA headquarters in January of this year and had meetings with Mr. Dikran Youmshakian, Administrative Director of the AMAA.

Dorcas Aid is a mission partner of the AMAA and is involved in significant relief and service projects in Armenia. DAI sponsors 200 needy children and their families in Armenia and regularly ships containers of food parcels. DAI also sponsors a kindergarten in Talin, and publishes and distributes children's Christian literature.

The AMAA supports DAI relief projects in Africa including aid to the Inhaminga Orphanage in Mozambique, to the Duala School for the Blind in Cameroon and emergency relief to flood-stricken areas in Mozambique.

The meeting was an opportunity to strengthen the cooperation of the partner organizations and to plan and expand their joint humanitarian efforts. □



(l to r) Mr. Dirk Jan Groot, Director of Dorcas Aid International, AMAA Administrative Director Mr. Dikran Youmshakian, and Mr. Paul Vishky.

ՖՐԱՆՑ ՎԵՐՖԷՆԻ «ՄՈՒՍԱ ՏԱՂԻ ՔԱՌԱՍՈՒՆ ՕՐԵՐԸ» ԵՒ ՎԵՐ. ՏԻԳՐԱՆ ԱՆԳՐԷԱՍԵԱՆ

Վեր. Պարգև Տարազեան

Կարգ մը ուսումնասիրներ աշխատանք տարած են կապ մը տեսներու Վերֆեյի «Մուսա Տաղի Քառասուն Օրերը» երկին եւ Տիգրան Անդրէասեանի «Զէյթունի Տարագրութիւնը եւ Սուետիոյ Ապստամբութիւնը» հերոսապատումին մէջ: Վերֆեյի գիրքին՝ որ առաջին անգամ հրատարակուած է 1934-ին, համառօտ յառաջաբանին մէջ հեղինակը կ'ակնարկէ իր Դամասկոս այցելութեան՝ 1929-ի Մարտին: Ան կը գրէ. «Թշուառ, տխուր, եւ սովահար երեւոյթով մանուկներ որոնք կը գործէին կապերտի գործարաններու մէջ, ստիպեցին զիս դուրս բերելու զանոնք մեռելներու աշխարհէն, ինչ որ էր անոնց կացութիւնը՝ Հայ Ազգին մէկ անըմբռնելի ճակատագիրով: Ասոր յաջորդեց գիրքին գրութիւնը գոր սկսաւ 1932-ին ու աւարտեցի 1933-ի Մարտին:»

Վերֆեյ եւ Անդրէասեան ժամանակակիցներ ըլլալով հանդեմ, թղթակցութիւն չէին ունեցած իրարու հետ: Այսուհանդերձ, անոնք անուղղակի հաղորդակցութեան մէջ եղած էին իրարու հետ շնորհիւ իրենց հասարակաց բարեկամին՝ Վեր. Անդրանիկ Պետիկեան, որ հոգեւոր հովիւն էր Նիւ Եօրքի Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիին: Սակայն, պէտք է յիշուի թէ Վերֆեյի եւ անոր գիրքին շուրջ ինչ թղթակցութիւն ալ կատարուած ըլլայ Պետիկեանի եւ Անդրէասեանի միջեւ, սա եղած է Վերֆեյի «...Քառասուն Օրերը» հատորին հրատարակուելէն ետք: Հետաքրքրական է նշել թէ Վեր. Պետիկեանի եւ Վերֆեյի բարեկամական կապը սկսաւ երբ այս վերջինը իր առաջին այցելութիւնը կուտար Նիւ Եօրք քաղաքին՝ Ա. Աշխարհամարտէն ետք: Մեծարանքի մեծ հանդիսութիւն մը կը գործադրուի Նիւ Եօրքի Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիին մէջ պատուելու համար Աւստրիացի այս մեծահամբաւ հեղինակը որ բարեկամն էր Հայ ժողովուրդին:

Կը պատմուի թէ Վերֆեյ այցելած է Վիեննա, Հայ Կաթողիկէ Միաբնակեան Միաբնակութեան վանքը ու նախ խորհրդակցած է Վանահօր հետ, որմէ ետք ան խօսակցած է Հայր Թովմաս Քաջազնի հետ որ ծնած էր 1909-ին, Մուսա Տաղի Եօղուն-Օլուգ գիւղը: Վերֆեյ վանքին մէջ ստացած է բերանացի կարգ մը տեղեկութիւններ, ու գրադարանէն քանի մը գիրքեր: Այսուհանդերձ, յետագային, Միաբնակեաններու կողմէ 6 Նոյեմբեր 1949 թուակիր նամակէ մը այնպէս կը պարզուի թէ «Վերֆեյ

ստացած է միայն մէկ առարկայ հոնկէ որ եղած է Կրեկորեան Պատարագի Գերմանական մէկ թարգմանութիւնը: Միաբնակեանները զգուշանալով թուրքերու հաւանական հակազդեցութենէն, խնդրած են Վերֆեյին որ իր վէպին մէջ ակնարկութիւն չընէ այս դէպքին շուրջ:» Քանի որ այս յառաջաբանը ուղղակիօրէն կապ չունի Վերֆեյի «Մուսա Տաղի Քառասուն Օրերը» երկին հետ, պիտի ջանամ ամփոփ կերպով ներկայացնել հոս Geroge Schultz-Behrend-ի կատարած մէկ ուսումնասիրութեան եզրակացութիւնը՝ Վերֆեյի երկին յատկազօային աղբիւրներուն շուրջ:*

Schultz-Behrend-ի համաձայն, Վերֆեյ իր վէպին իբրեւ յատկազօ գործածած է Վեր. Տիգրան Անդրէասեանի մէկ երկար ու տեղեկագրական յօդուածը՝ «Սուետիա-Դրուագ մը՝ Սկսեալ Հայերու Կրած Հայածանքէն:» Անդրէասեան գրեց ասիկա Սուետահայ գաղթականներու - որոնց մէջ էր նաեւ ինք - Եգիպտոս հասնելէն ետք: Գրութիւնը Անգլերէնի թարգմանեց ամերիկացի միսիօնար Վեր. Ստիֆըն Թրոպրիճ, որ այն ատեն Վարիչ Քարտուղարն էր Գահիրէի Ամերիկեան Կարմիր Խաչին: Թարգմանիչը փոխանցեց այս գրութիւնը Անգլիոյ մէջ հրատարակող Արարատ թերթին խմբագիրին, որ իր կարգին հրատարակեց զայն թերթին Նոյեմբեր 1915 թուակիրով: Աւելի ուշ, այս յօդուածը երեւցաւ իբրեւ պաշտօնական վաւերացութիւն թէ՛ Անգլիոյ մէջ հրատարակուող "Treatment of the Armenians in the Ottoman Empire" կամ՝ Blue Book-ին մէջ, 1916 թ-ին: Այս գրութիւնը նաեւ երեւցաւ մէկ տարբեր մակդիրով, "A Red Cross That Saved Four Thousand", որ նաեւ հրատարակուեցաւ Outlook CX1, 1 Դեկտեմբեր, 1915-ին: Ես ժառանգած եմ այս գրութեան ֆրանսերէն մէկ թարգմանութիւնը Վեր. Անդրէասեանէն: Գրութիւնը գրեթէ կը համապատասխանէ Blue Book-ի մէջ գրուած գրութեան:

Դարձեալ, ըստ Schultz-Behrend-ի, իր երկին համար Վերֆեյ հետեւեցաւ Անդրէասեանի վերոյիշեալ գրութեան: Ուրիշ գրուագներու համար Վերֆեյ օգտագործած է Գերմանացի մեծ հայասէր Վեր. Յովհաննէս Լեփսիուսի գրած ու հրատարակած տետրակներն ու պարբերաթերթերը: Մշակութային ու պատմական տեղեկութեանց համար, ըստ Schultz-Behrend-ի, Վերֆեյ օգտագործած է ուրիշ Գերմանացի

մը, Von Paul Rohrbach-ի «յօղուածները՝ Armenian Lands and the Armenian People վերտառութեամբ:» Սա հրատարակուած է 1919-ին, Stuttgart. «Այս յօդուածաշարքը կը բովանդակէ Հայկական զանազան նիւթեր, ինչպէս, Պատմական Վերանայում. Աշխարհագրական եւ Քաղաքական Վերանայում. Հայկական Աւանդութիւններու Շուրջ. Անիի Աւերակները. Դաշնակցական Կուսակցութեան Ծրագիրը. Հայոց Եկեղեցին. Հայոց Կրթական Դրութիւնը. Մովսէս Խորենացիէն մինչեւ Վան Քաղաքի Կառուցումը. Տարոնացի Ստեբանոսէն մինչեւ Աշոտ Բագրատունի Թագաւորութիւնը ու իր ժամանակները:»

Սուետիոյ ինքնապաշտպանութեան ղեկավարին նկատմամբ, Վերֆէլ կը ստեղծէ իր դերակատարը Գաբրիէլ Բագրատեանի վիպային անձին մէջ, ու անունին տակ: Schultz-Behrend, մեկնաբանելով այս մասին թէ ինչո՞ւ Արամ Թովմասեանը, իմա՝ Տիգրան Անդրէասեանը, յակնդէս անուանէ չէ յիշուած իբրեւ ղեկավար, կ'ընէ հետեւեալ նկատողութիւնը «...սակայն, Թովմասեան բողոքական է, անդամ փոքրամասնութիւն կազմող յարանուանութեան մը՝ տիրական մեծամասնութիւն կազմող Առաքելականներու դիմաց, որոնք թէեւ պատմականօրէն առանձնակի վերին ղեկավար մը չեն ունեցած, այսուհանդերձ, այդպէս ներկայացուելու արդար իրաւունքը ունին արուեստի այս երկին բնական ընթացքին մէջ: Հետեւաբար Վերֆէլ ստեղծեց Տէր Հայկազունը, քահանայ մը վաղեմի ու պատկառելի եկեղեցիի ու դաւանանքի:»

* Տես՝ «Յուշամատեան Մուսա Լերան», Հրտ. Ճեպէլ Մուսայի Հայրենակցական Միութեան: Խմբագիրներ՝ Մարտիրոս Գուշագեան եւ Պողոս Մատուռեան: Պէյրուս, Լիբանան, 1970, էջ 645:

** "Sources and Background of Werfel's Novel, 'Die Vierzig Tage Des Musa Dagh,' by Georg Schultz-Behrend." The Germanic Review, Vol. XXVI, No. 2, pp. 11-123; published by the Department of Germanic Languages of Columbia University, New York, NY, April 1951.

Մանօթ Խմբ. Անցեալ տարի, Մուսա Լերան Հեռուստարտի 85-րդ տարեդարձին առիթով, Ամերիկայի Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութիւնը վերահրատարակեց երջանկայիշատակ Ազգային Հերոս Վեր. Տիգրան Անդրէասեանի «Ջէյրունի Տարագրութիւնը եւ Սուետիոյ Ապստամբութիւնը» Գիրքը: Անցեալ Յուլիսին Վեր. Տիգրան Անդրէասեանի ահիւնները իր ընտանիքի անդամներուն արտօնութեամբ Պէյրութի Ֆրէն-ըլ-Շըպպէի գերեզմանատունէն փոխադրուեցան եւ



Վեր. Տիգրան Անդրէասեանի շիրիմը Այնմարի Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիին ու Վարժարանին շրջափակին մէջ:

գետեղուեցան Այնմարի Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիին ու Վարժարանին շրջափակին մէջ: Նոյն օրը նաեւ համազգային շուքով գործադրուեցաւ Յիշատակի Պաշտամունք-Հանդիսութիւն մը մասնակցութեամբ հայ երեք յարանուանութիւններու առաջնորդներուն, ու պետական եւ հայ կուսակցութեան ներկայացուցիչներուն: Իսկ Սեպտեմբերին Այնմարի Մուսա Լերան յուշահամալիրին մէջ գետեղուեցաւ հերոս Վերապատուելիին մէկ կոթողը:

Այս բոլորը ողջունելի պատեհ առիթներ կը ներկայացնեն անգամ մը եւս մեր նոր սերունդին առջեւ բանալու մեր պատմութեան փառաւորագոյն էջերէն մէկը՝ Մուսա Լերան ինքնապաշտպանութիւնը, այն յոյսով եւ աղօթքով, որ Մուսա Լերան հերոսամարտի պատմութիւնը պիտի ներշնչէ մեր օրերու հայրենաբնակ ու արտերկրի նոր սերունդը հայրենի հողին կառչած մեր հերոսներու աւանդին մէջ տեսնելու մեր փառապանծ ազգին գոյատեւման երաշխիքը:□

Rev. Mihran Moses Koeroghlian

Rev. Mihran Moses Koeroghlian passed away on the morning of November 28, 2000 after a stroke, at Plymouth Village Retirement Community in Redlands, CA.



Mihran was born in the Cilician town of Dortyol in Turkey two years after the turn of the century, the youngest of four children. His elementary education was interrupted by deportation in 1915 which turned out to be a genocide whose victims included his entire family save a sister and himself. He was spared the calamity by a miraculous escape which ended up by his admission in an orphanage in Aintab.

Soon after the armistice, Mihran returned to his hometown where he completed his elementary education with a handful of other students who also had escaped the holocaust by the skin of their teeth. But normal life was not going to be their lot yet. Once again the ancestral land was ceded to the Turks, and they had to pull up their loosely held stakes and move out in the fall of 1921.

After two years spent in various towns of the Middle East, Mihran was admitted to British High School in Alexandretta on very generous terms by its missionary supporters. His graduation from this school on May 31, 1926 was followed by two years of college work in Aleppo where he was favored even with greater generosity.

Upon graduation from Aleppo College in 1928, he practiced teaching and preaching at a village in Musa Dagh for one year, after which he embarked on his theological training, starting at the School of Religion in 1929 at Athens, Greece, and finishing at Near East School of Theology in 1933 in Beirut, Lebanon. He was married in Athens right after his graduation with Miss Xhosrovouhie Simonian who was the secretary of the School of Religion. A son and a daughter were born during the first four years of their marriage.

The graduation and the marriage were followed by four short pastorates in the Middle East from 1933 to 1943, and two years of war-time service in the British naval base in Beirut.

He came to the United States alone for advanced studies in his field on the first boat available to civilians after the war which arrived in New York on March 11, 1946. During the following four years, he acquired the degree of B.D. from Hartford Theological Seminary and S.T.M. from Pacific School of Religion, in the meanwhile holding temporary pastorates in the neighboring churches.

Mihran's wife and two children, Anne and Moses, joined him in 1950, after which they worked together in four parishes in this country: one on the west coast, three on the east. While in California from 1947 to 1955 he was one time elected moderator of the Armenian Evangelical Union of California.

While in Salem, New Hampshire (1955-62), in addition to the pastorate of the Ararat Armenian Congregational Church, he was appointed as minister at large by the Conference of that state to visit all the unchurched Armenian families in the state. At the same time he was also elected by the Armenian Evangelical Union of New England and New York state to be the coordinator of pulpit exchange to serve all the churches of the Union in this capacity.

During his active years in ministry and in the retirement years, Rev. Koeroghlian has written occasional articles on current events or religious themes in Armenian and English for publication.

Rev. Koeroghlian is survived by his daughter Anne and son Moses and their families.□

Siranoush Maserejian

Siranoush Maserejian (Nersessian) entered her eternal rest on Sunday, November 19, 2000 in Watertown, MA at her home. She was born on May 16, 1916 to Gulenia and Shamael Nersessian, in Aintab, Cilician Armenia. She married Yacoub Maserejian on Nov. 28, 1933 in Aleppo, Syria, and God blessed them with many children: one daughter, Meline, and five sons, Krikor, George, Samuel, Zareh and Souren. Her greatest and early sorrow was the untimely death of her eight year old daughter, and the premature death of her only brother Minas.

Siranoush belonged to the generation of the Armenian Genocide and deportations. She was deported with her parents and her sister and brother from Aintab in 1922 after the epic War of Aintab. Siranoush was then only six years old; the family walked about

200 miles through the wilderness to the haven city of Aleppo, Syria, where they settled. The first few years, the family lived in shanties or "varaka" homes, but within few years, through hard work, they moved to a new apartment, and within few years thereafter, they had built their own home. In Aleppo, Siranoush got her primary education at the *Ousoumnasiratz* Armenian School from where she graduated with honors.

Just like all Armenian mothers of the genocide generation, Siranoush's life was that of a devoted and faithful exemplary Mother who sacrificed everything that she had and dedicated her entire life to her husband and raising her children. She was a dome decorator, expert in Armenian Aintab needle work and embroidery maker, nurse for her children. As was the custom then, she lived with her bigger family on her husband's side.

Siranoush had a deep faith in God and in particular to Jesus. She believed in eternal life and she always spoke of her bygone parents, her husband, her brother and sister. While she was raising her children, she made sure that each of them had either a small Bible under their pillows and a small prayer pouch hanging with a string around their necks. She was a faithful Christian. She held the Armenian church Sacraments holy in her mind. She was born and baptized in the Armenian Apostolic Church, yet she was deeply evangelical and adopted her husband's denomination and cared for him for two years in bed before his death, and remained faithful to him until his last days.

Siranoush was patriotic and loved the Homeland. She was also a true American. Upon her landing in America in 1976 she attended night school for two consecutive years to improve her English language and received two diplomas. She voted regularly and prayed for the US presidents.

During the last decade Siranoush lost her vision to a terrible decease called macular degeneration. This was the greatest pain for her because it prevented her from reading her own big lettered Bible, which was the core of her life and faith.

Siranoush will be remembered for her love of family and her children. She loved each of them equally and as if each one was the only one she had. She loved her daughter-in-laws, her 13 grandchildren and four grand children with all her heart and they all loved her deeply.□

Peter A. Michaelian

Peter A. Michaelian died Sunday evening, February 18, in Health Alliance Hospital/Leominster after a short illness. He was 71 years old.

Peter was born on May 14, 1929, in Lowell, the son of Andrew and Helen (Ogasian) Michaelian, and had later lived more than 30 years in Shrewsbury before moving to Fitchburg 17 years ago. He graduated from the former Commerce High School in Worcester in 1946 and Clark University, also in Worcester, in 1951. He attended the business school at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Mr. Michaelian worked for more than 20 years as Vice President of Human Resources at the former Foster Grant Co. in Leominster, retiring in 1990.

He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1946 to 1948.

Mr. Michaelian was a member and past President of Sons of Italy Lodge 169, state deputy of the Worcester Sons of Italy Lodge 168, past commander of the Italian-American War Veterans Post 4 in Fitchburg, a member of American Legion Post 429 in Cleghorn and a current Vice President of the Fitchburg Veterans Council. He was also an active member of the United Way in Leominster, a past moderator of the Armenian Church of the Martyrs in Worcester, a Knight of Vartan in Worcester, a past commissioner of the Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Department, a member of the Board of Directors of Health Alliance Hospital/Leominster, a member of Morningstar Lodge of Masons in Worcester, and a longtime member of St. Anthony di Padua Church. He was also a devoted parishioner and moderator of the Armenian Church of the Martyrs' of Worcester, MA. His mother, Helen Michaelian had served as Worcester's AMAA Chapter's secretary/treasurer for over 50 years.

He leaves his wife of 17 years, MaryAnn E. (Barbaro) Michaelian; a son, Peter A. Michaelian II in Florida; a daughter, Debra Bolz of Worcester; two sisters, Barbara A. Davis of Worcester and June C. Jardarian of Shrewsbury; a grandson, and many nephews and nieces. His first wife, Norma (Dean) Michaelian, died in January 1981.□

Արուսեակ Օրջանեան (1920-2000)

Բամբիշ Արուսեակ ծնած է Այնթապ 1920-ին, Եփրեմ եւ Հռիփսիմէ Սապունեան ընտանիքի մէջ: Իր նախնական ուսումը ստացած է Հալէպի Կրթասիրաց Վարժարանին մէջ ուրկէ որպէս փայլուն աշակերտուհի շրջանաւարտ եղած է: Ապա սկսած է աշխատիլ եղբօրը հետ կանանց դերձակութիւն սորվելու համար: Եղբօրը թելադրութեամբ Հայ Առաքելական Կիրակոսեայ Դպրոցին մէջ ծառայած է որպէս ուսուցչուհի: 1943-ին ամուսնացած է Վեր. Պարգեւ Օրջանեանի հետ, որ 1942-ին Շիմլանի Աստուածաշունչի դպրոցէն շրջանաւարտ ըլլալով որպէս տեսուչ կը ծառայէր Զուիցերիական հաստատութիւն եղող աչակորկներու դպրոցին մէջ: Աստուած իրենց ընտանիքը օժտած է երկու աղջիկ եւ երկու մանչ զաւակներով:

Աչակորկներու Հաստատութեան մէջ իրենց գործը վախճան գտնելով 1947-ին Պէյրութ փոխադրուած են եւ տասը տարիներ թարմ կարգ պատրաստելու ծանր գործին սկսած են ընտանիքի ապրուստը հոգալու համար: Ապա Գամիշլիէն հրաւեր ստանալով, փոխադրուած են Գամիշլի ուր ծառայած են 14 տարիներ: 1971-ին փոխադրուած են Հոմս ուր Վերապատուելիին ծառայութեան դաշտը երկարած է Լաթափայէն մինչեւ Դամասկոս:

Հոմսէն ետք անոնք փոխադրուած են Հալէպ եւ ծառայած Բեթլ Եկեղեցիին: Մինչեւ իրենց Ամերիկա գաղթելը Արուսեակ Պատուելիին կողմէն ծառայած է Բեթլի Կիրակոսեայ Դպրոցին եւ Եւ Տիկնանց Միութեան մէջ:

Արուսեակ միշտ համեստութեան, բարութեան, անձուրացութեան, նուիրումի, սիրոյ ու գոհողութեան մարմնացումը եղած է եւ որպէս մանուշակ իր բոլոր տարածած է առանց երեւալու:□

CORRECTION

In the obituary of **Elizabeth Egoian Bedrosian**, which was printed in our last issue, inadvertently some of the names (in italics) in the following paragraph were missed. We are printing that paragraph with our apologies.

Elizabeth is survived by her children Clara and husband, Lee Bousian, Ernest and wife, Carlotta Bedrosian, Krikor Y. and wife Katherine Bedrosian, *J. Kenneth & wife Jane S. Bedrosian* and 8 Grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren.

The AMAA Board of Directors and staff wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased friends whose names were submitted to us for publication in the AMAA News.

- Boyadjian Ruth
Livingston, NJ
- * Varadian, Steven
Cranston, RI
- * Guveyan, Arpine
Watertown, MA
- Kenosian, Grace
Pico Rivera, CA
- * Chopurian Trott, Zarouhie
Tonbridge, Kent, England
- * Dislilian, Victoria
Emerson, NJ
- * Gedigian (Giridlian), Nina
Stockton, CA
- * Hakimian, Alice
Albany, NY
- Baliozian, Alice
Pasadena, CA
- * Levonian Darian Marie
Troy, NY
- * Talanian, Gerald
Cranston, RI
- * Moomjy, Alice
Westfield, NJ
- * Barooshian, Vahan
Chelsea, MA
- * Kanlian, Nevart
Merlin, OR
- * Hourian, Pepron
Dearborn, MI
- * Vahradian, Marie
Providence, RI
- * Kargodorian, Azniv
Los Angeles, CA
- * Megerian Artin
Atlanta, GA
- * Tilkian Hagop
Fresno, CA
- * Kazarosian, Vahe
Haverhill, PA
- * Kardashian Rosie
Fresno, VA
- * Baran, Ara
Grand Hills, CA
- * Keteyan, Rose
Dearborn, MI
- * Kazanjian Roxie
Greenport, NY
- * Marfleet, Walter
- * Saligsohn, Stanton
- * Vreeland, Margaret
- * Agopian, Serpouhi

* Memorials were designated for AMAA.

AMAA's Child Sponsorship Program in the Middle East

"The situation in the schools in Lebanon is desperate. They have no cash to pay their teachers their salaries." This communique was received in February from the Central Committee of the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East. Recent political developments in Lebanon have made the situation worse to the extent that 80 percent of the student population are unable to pay tuition.

Since 1946, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) has been operating a Child Sponsorship Program in Armenian communities of Lebanon, Syria and Greece. This extensive program which covers nearly 1,500 children, is geared to helping children from poor families acquire an education in a Christian environment and also assist schools to keep their doors open.



There are 13 schools in this program, eight in Lebanon, four in Syria

and one in Greece. Selection of children for this program is made strictly on the basis of need.

☐ *Yes, I would like to become a sponsor of a child in the Middle East. Please sign me up as a sponsor of _____ child(ren) at \$200.00 per child, per year.*

☐ *I am enclosing a one-time gift of \$ _____ to help the AMAA provide necessary assistance for the education of a needy child in the Middle East.*

☐ *Please provide information on how to become a sponsor.*

Name: _____

Address: _____

(Make your tax-deductible check payable to AMAA, and mail to: 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652)

Sponsors are provided with photos and information about sponsored children and an exchange of letters is encouraged. Letters are routed through the AMAA, which delivers them to the schools and collects them from the schools.

Contributions are tax-deductible and are applied in their entirety to their sponsored children's tuition, with no deductions for overhead or other expenses.

Today this program is more important than ever, as living costs have risen with inflation and unemployment has thrown most of the families into poverty.

Can you help an Armenian child in the Middle East to get a proper education? For more information about this program or to sponsor a child, please fill out and send in the attached form.

Armenian Missionary Association of America

31 West Century Road

Paramus, NJ 07652

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